

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: STOLTE ET AL.      Examiner: OGDEN JR, NECHOLUS  
Serial No.: 10/826,430      Group Art Unit: 1751  
Filed: APRIL 15, 2004      Docket No.: 1899US01 (formerly 1149.1121101)  
Conf No.: 9854  
Title: BINDING AGENT FOR SOLIDIFICATION MATRIX

---

**REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action mailed June 26, 2006 for which a one-month period for response expires on July 26, 2006.

In this Office Action, pending claims 1-69 were restricted as follows:

Group I (claims 1-37) drawn to a solid composition, classified in class 510, subclass 191;  
and

Group II (claims 38-69) drawn to a method of making, classified in class 510, subclass 447.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections by suggesting that serious burden would not be placed on the Examiner in searching and examining all of the claims. See MPEP §803. Indeed, both groups I and II are classified in the exact same class (i.e. 510). For at least this reason, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the present restriction requirement.

However, if the Examiner disagrees with this suggestion, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse Group I (claims 1-37) for further prosecution in the present application. Claims 38-69 are therefore withdrawn from consideration but are not canceled. No fees are believed due for consideration of the present reply.

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501257.

**43896**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

ECOLAB INC.  
Law Department  
Mail Stop ESC-F7  
655 Long Oak Drive  
Eagan, Minnesota 55121  
Phone Number: (651) 795-5661  
Fax Number: (651) 204-7507

Dated: July 12, 2006

By: /Anneliese S. Mayer/  
Name: Anneliese S. Mayer  
Reg. No. 54,434